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**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
GROUP ART UNIT 1654**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : LIGNELL et al. Confirmation No: 4529
Appl. No. : 10/088,496
Filed : March 29, 2002
Title : USE OF XANTHOPHYLLS, ASTAXANTHIN e.g., FOR
TREATMENT OF AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES, CHRONIC
VIRAL AND INTRACELLULAR BACTERIAL INFECTIONS

TC/A.U. : 1654
Examiner : S. Coe

Docket No.: : LIGN3005/REF
Customer No: : 23364

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of December 29, 2003, in connection with the above-identified application.

Please amend the above identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.